

**1. AMENDMENTS IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace paragraph 1a, at page 20, line 5 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

In a fourth embodiment, the invention provides a method of backbone linkage for the synthesis of peptides, comprising the steps of

a) using an auxiliary of the invention as a linker linking the  $\alpha$ -nitrogen of an amino acid residue in the desired peptide to a solid support,

Please replace paragraph 2, at page 25, lines 9-10 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

The auxiliaries of the invention are suitable for use in combination with other agents useful in the synthesis of cyclic peptides, for example those described in ~~our co-pending international application No. PCT/AU99/000813~~Australian provisional application, entitled "Synthesis of Cyclic Peptides," filed on the same day as this application.